

BLUEPRINTS PREFACE
STAR PROGRAM CALIFORNIA STANDARDS TESTS
HISTORY-SOCIAL SCIENCE

These are the California Standards Test (CST) blueprints for the History-Social Science (H-SS) tests administered at grades 8, 10 and 11. History-social science is included in the California STAR testing program only at these grade levels and these are the only history-social science tests.

These blueprints are valid for 2004 and subsequent years until altered by action of the State Board of Education. The “Standards Assessed” column shows the standards tested and numbers of questions included on each H-SS CST. Since all H-SS standards are subject to testing, all standards receive a check mark.

As the blueprint indicates, the test administered at grade 8 covers standards for grades 6-8 and consists of 75 multiple-choice questions. At grades 10 and 11 each test consists of 60 multiple-choice questions aligned to the standards for each of those grades respectively. The “History-Social Science Analysis Skills” standards in each grade are also tested, by being concurrently employed in 25% of the content items. No additional questions are used to test the “Skills” standards separately.

Every history-social science test includes an additional six pilot items embedded randomly. Therefore, the actual test booklet will include 81 items in the grade 6-8 test and 66 items in the grades 10 and 11 tests. Data from these items is used to select new items for the following year’s tests.